1	2	3
23.	Bihar	43
24.	Orissa	20
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	2
26.	Assam	46
27.	Meghalaya	10
28.	Sikkim	4
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
30.	Mizoram	3
31.	Tripura	7
32.	Manipur	16
33.	Nagaland	6
34.	Lakshadweep Islands	0
	TOTAL	5166

Source: Food Safety & Standards Authority of India

Wastage of fruits

3448. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though the country has a top position in the production of horticultural products, the extent of fruit processing is below 2 per cent;

(b) whether Government is going to take up a special programme in enhancing fruit processing to restrain the wastage of fruits produced by hard toil of farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) The level of processing of fruits & vegetables in the country is estimated at 2.20%. The low level of fruit and vegetable processing is due to non-availability of processable varieties of raw materials at right quantity and quality, seasonable nature of industry, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such as lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc. However, over the last few years, there has been a positive growth in fruit and vegetable processed products such as ready-to-serve beverages, fruit juices and pulps, dehydrated and frozen fruits and vegetable products, tomato products, pickle, convenience veg-spice pastes, processed mushrooms and curried vegetables. As per the data maintained by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the installed capacity of fruits and vegetables processing units (FPO licensed units) has increased from 26.38 lakh tones as on 01.01.08 to 30.89 lakh tones as on 01.01.09.

In order to increase level of processing and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential for processed food products, Vision 2015 Document has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages tripling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20% value addition from 20% 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. An integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector has also been approved by the Government.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI) has been implementing various schemes for promotion and development of food processing industries in the country, MFPI through its various schemes for financial assistance and other promotional measures, facilitates creation of food related infrastructure including processing facilities aimed at reducing wastages, enhancing value addition and increasing shelf life. The Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Establishment/ Modernisation of Food Processing Industries is aimed at creation of new processing capacity and up-gradation of existing processing capabilities, modernization of Food Processing Sector including fruit & vegetables processing units.

Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Modernization/Establishment of Food Processing Industries, MFPI extends financial assistance to food processing industries including fruit and vegetable processing units in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakh in general area or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakh in difficult areas such as Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, A&N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP areas. In addition, under the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern and Himalayan States, higher levels of assistance @ 50% upto maximum of Rs. 4.00 crore for setting up and Rs. 1.00 crore for Upgradation of fruit and vegetables processing is available. A National Horticulture Mission (NHM) has been launched with an objective to boost the horticulture sector.

To encourage setting up of cold chain facilities and backward linkages in the country, Ministry of Food Processing industries (MFPI) has a Plan Scheme for Cold Chain, Value Addition and Preservation Infrastructure during the 11th Plan to provide financial assistance to project proposals received from public/private organizations for cold chain infrastructure development. The scheme envisages financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 50% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 75% for North Eastern Region and difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 10.00 crore. The initiatives are aimed at filling the gaps in the supply chain, strengthening of cold chain infrastructure, establishing value addition with infrastructural facilities like sorting, grading, packaging and processing for horticulture including organic produce, marine, dairy, poultry, etc.